

Garden Oaks Gazette

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JUNE 1986



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Civic Club recently began a program to develop and beautify the public areas of our neighborhood. We will consider landscaping and other developments for Garden Oaks Boulevard, Shepherd Drive, the neighborhood circles and parks, and other areas. These efforts will add greatly to the value and attractiveness of our community. I strongly encourage anyone who would like to assist in the planning and implementation of this project to contact Lee Ann Kean at 699-8303. We need your contributions.

Some of these areas have been landscaped in the past, but as you can see, the plants and improvements have largely disappeared, primarily because of inadequate maintenance. If we make the considerable investment of new landscaping, we should be prepared to provide ongoing maintenance of these areas. The best way to accomplish this is to provide a reliable source of maintenance funding through the Civic Club.

I believe we should initiate a deed restriction that institutes a small monthly fee (less than \$5.00) for all residents who buy houses in Garden Oaks after the restriction is passed. A fee of this sort is very common in other major Houston neighborhoods, and is generally collected through the homeowner's mortgage company. Senior citizens should be exempt from this fee.

This suggestion will be discussed at the June meeting, so anyone interested please come and make your opinion known. We also need a community leader to coordinate this effort.

JIM ALEXANDER, PRESIDENT

JUNE MEETING
TUESDAY, JUNE 3, 1986, 7:00 pm
GARDEN OAKS BAPTIST CHURCH

Crime prevention for the homeowner and the elderly will be the topic of the June Civic Club meeting. The Houston Police Department presentation will discuss prevention of burglary, theft, fraud, con games and other common crimes against the homeowner and senior citizens.

JUNE MEETING, continued

Child care will again be available at the meeting for anyone who needs it. Please bring a toy or two for your child to play with. The fee is \$1.00 per child.

JUNE MEETING CASH JACKPOT! The cash jackpot is now \$40.00. A name will be drawn from our paid membership list. If that person is present at the meeting, he or she will win two crisp new twenties! If you are not already a member, you can and are encouraged to join at the beginning of the meeting.

CRITTER CORNER by DAVID HORSLEY

A Sort-of-Sesquicentennial Garden Oaks Nature Quiz

- 1) Which of these could not be seen in Garden Oaks in the year 1836?
(a)black bear (b)cougar (c)saguaro cactus (d)Karankawa
(e)Ivory-billed woodpecker.
- 2) What harmless snake is found in every Garden Oaks yard?
- 3) What has caused the decline in native bird species in Garden Oaks since 1836? (a)reduced food supply (b)little boys with BB guns
(c)loss of habitat (d)nesting boxes scare the birds away (e)Yuppies.
- 4) What good do slugs do?
- 5) What two animals are you most likely to see squashed in the street in Garden Oaks?
- 6) What is the leading reason for Garden Oaks residents to meet their neighbors? (a)block parties (b)loud stereos (c)Civic Club meetings
(d)storms (e)walks.
- 7) True or False: Purple martins eat their weight in mosquitos every day?
- 8) What do Garden Oaks storm sewers drain into?
- 9) How many different types of warblers has David Veselka seen in his yard this spring? (a)2 (b)8 (c)12 (d)36 (e)51.
- 10) How many animals of each type went aboard the Ark with Moses?

ANSWERS:

- 1) (c) Saguaro cactus is found onky in the Sonoran Desert of Arizona.
- 2) The rough earth snake (Virginia striatula), a small brownish snake about 8 inches in length. Don't kill 'em, folks -- they eat bugs.
- 3) (a) and (c)
- 4) Beats me.
- 5) Squirrels and toads. There is really no reason for anyone to run over either, as they are easily avoided by careful driving.
- 6) (d) Hurricanes and tornados account for 79% of all initial residential encounters.
- 7) Martin house manufacturers say true, but the only thing my martins eat seems to be dragonflies, a major natural enemy of mosquitos!
- 8) First into White Oak Bayou (where my dog swims), then into Buffalo Bayou (where we like to canoe) and then into the Gulf of Mexico (where we all swim). So, please don't pour used motor oil down the sewer. The Sears Automotive department on Shepherd will take it off your hands for recycling.
- 9) (c) Gosh, I didn't know there were that many types.
- 10) None. It was Noah.

GARDEN CLUB NOTES

Congratulations to Mickie Heidrich of 705 W. 41st who was awarded Garden Oaks Yard of the Month.

The Garden Club covered dish supper will be held June 12, 1986, at 6:30 pm at the home of Allen and Lana Miller, 411 W. 33rd Street. Bring a covered dish and your lawn chair. Everyone is invited to attend the dinner and get to know your neighbors.

FLASHBULBS THE ORDER OF THIS DAY! On Sunday, May 17th, 100 of Rose Fitch's relatives and friends attended the dedication of the Rose Garden which was built in her honor. David Patranella read a letter from Gov. Mark White commending Rose on her loyalty and support of her community.

We would like to thank Anne Balson, Rose's daughter, Jude Patranella, David Patranella and Mrs. Dodd, principal of Garden Oaks Elementary.

It was great to see Rose in such good spirits on her very special day!

HEARD UNDER THE OAK TREE

Happy Birthday to the following who celebrate June birthdays:

- ALLISON WEED, 3 on June 8th;
- JESSICA SIEMS, 1 on June 20th;
- TAYLOR HYDE, 1 on June 21st;
- COURTNEY GLASS, 3 on June 29th;
- TOMMY COLE, 40 (the big one!) on June 30th.

Congratulations to SUE, MITCHELL and KATIE McFARLAND on the birth of DAVID MITCHELL, born April 30, weighing 8 lbs. 9 ozs.

The editor apologizes to the mother who called to announce the birth of her daughter. In all our remodeling, the paper I wrote everything down on was misplaced. Please call back!

A SAD NOTE

April 19 marked the passing of Seaton E. Anderson, age 82, a Charter resident of Garden Oaks. A retired HISD elementary school principal and University of Houston math teacher, Mr. Anderson is survived by his wife, Margaret Anderson, also a retired teacher. Mr. Anderson's friends and neighbors in Garden Oaks will miss him.

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GARDEN OAKS CIVIC CLUB MEMBERSHIP FORM

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____ PHONE: _____

I would like to assist in the:

- Membership Drive
- Neighborhood Cleanup
- Refreshments for meetings
- delivery of Gazettes
- Other _____

\$10 per household. \$5 for senior citizens.

Make checks payable to: Garden Oaks Civic Club

Mail to: Willard Mills, Treasurer, 907 W. 41st Street, Houston, TX 77018
